

HCDOP Communications – February 2005

Next HCDOP meeting

- *When/where*
 - **March 16, 9:30 am** at the Puget Sound Action Team's office, 210 11th Avenue, SW, Suite 401, Olympia, WA 98501. Call (360) 725-5444 for directions.
- *Proposed agenda items for the March 16 meeting*
 - Follow up on communications documents
 - Update on PSAT funded aeration project
 - Governor's briefing

Note: If you have other agenda items please contact Anne or Duane.

HCDOP CG Action Items (from the February 8 meeting)

- Jan/Anne will make sure everyone's comments are incorporated into the background communications document. Anne will send out to the group. (Done)
- A communications meeting will take place February 24, 1:30 pm to discuss three communications pieces (6-7 pages background and technical information, 1 page identity piece, 1 page messages) (Done).
- Anne will send out the following documents to the group Kitsap County's QAPP (done), Ecology's TMDL data summary (done), USGS's Jan. 28 power point presentation to Rep. Dicks on USGS's activities, DNR's eelgrass study,
- Pam will work with Mary Lou on historical data of fish kills. Pam has been in contact with a woman in Hoodspoint who has a record of fish kills from the 1940's.
- Anne will revise identity piece and send out to HCDOP group for review before the communications meeting (done).
- Duane will contact Hood Canal Select Committee staff to make sure they are getting the information they need from the HCDOP (done).

Scientific Studies

- *Project update*
 - The money from the Navy for the HCDOP-IAM study arrived to UW-APL and is being contracted to all of the various investigators within the HCDOP-IAM (Newton/Hannafious).
 - There were two HCDOP-IAM meetings held to review and integrate the USGS study plan for the biota (hypoxia and fish disease) and freshwater (groundwater) tasks within the IAM study at UW on 2 March (Newton/Hannafious).
 - There will be a meeting to strategize the marine sampling on 9 March at UW (Newton/Hannafious).
- *New information generated by projects*
 - A very early "spring" phytoplankton bloom during February is evident in the ORCA data from Lynch Cove. See http://www.ocean.washington.edu/research/orca/data_hdcanal1_2005.html. A link to these data will soon be accessible from the UW's HCDOP website, which is currently under re-construction (Newton/Hannafious).

- Task 3 (Kitsap Co. Health): Kitsap Health staff have received field training from Dan Hannafious and have added nutrient sampling to their monthly Hood Canal stream sampling events for temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, turbidity and fecal coliform bacteria. The Kitsap streams sampled during these monthly runs are Big Anderson, Big Beef, Seabeck and Stavis Bay creeks.
- *Study data*

Corrective Actions

- *Project update*
 - Kitsap County Health District's "Hood Canal Shoreline Survey Project" (EPA/PSAT grant): Kitsap Health staff have completed their first pass of the 8.5 miles of *developed* shoreline in the project area (from Little Anderson Creek south to the county line); approximately 325 shoreline homes are within this study area. 200 samples were collected from flowing shoreline discharges for fecal coliform bacteria (FC): 190 samples had FC concentrations **below** 200 FC/100ml (action level for follow-up) and ten samples had greater than 1600 FC/100ml (strong indicator of untreated human sewage or animal waste). Staff will be working within tidal constraints to follow-up on these ten sites. Two graywater discharges (i.e., laundry sinks) were identified and are in the process of being corrected.

Fifty-five of the shoreline discharges (sites that were suspected as having a higher probability for potential human sewage contamination) were also sampled for nitrate + nitrite nitrogen to determine if there was any correlation between elevated FC concentrations and elevated nitrogen concentrations. During this first sampling round, statistical analysis showed that there was no correlation between the FC and nitrogen. Of the 55 nitrogen samples, six had concentrations between 3 to 10 mg/L, with the remaining 49 samples having concentrations between 0.07 to 2.99 mg/L.

A series of public education workshops by Kitsap Health will begin on March 10. (Grellner).

- Staff from Mason Conservation District continue to do research and field work for the anaerobic digester feasibility study. In late February staff attended a training seminar in Sunnyside WA on anaerobic treatment, and met with RCM Digesters Inc. to discuss cost estimates and other considerations related to construction of a system. (Glasoe).
- Hood Canal Coordinating Council (HCCC) project: Survey is at the printer along with pre-survey letter. Additional surveys will be developed now for businesses, and also for Hoodsport (add-on through NFWF funding). Contracts are in place for monitoring of existing onsite sewage systems (contract with Jefferson County). No sites have been selected yet by Mason or Kitsap counties. Because it is such a dry winter, the whole thing may have to wait until fall. (Christensen).
- *New information generated by projects*

Public Outreach

- *Public education and outreach efforts updates*
 - Dan Hannafious and Jan Newton met with the IGERT program's UW graduate students who are working on Hood Canal on 7 Feb to brief them on the IAM study and provide contacts for collaboration (Newton/Hannafious).
 - Met with John G. Denison, long-time Hood Canal resident, former director of the Rayonier Marine Lab, and former county health staff, related to corrective actions and historic observations (Duane)
 - Met with long-time Lilliwaup resident, Bob McKassen, about his diving and fishing observations over the past 60 years in the canal (Duane)
 - The WSU Cooperative Extension and Sea Grant have scheduled most of the major trainings for spring. Sea Grant has developed point of purchase signs to place in stores that sell fertilizers. The signs will encourage people to use organic fertilizers. WSU Cooperative Extension has been revising the content, illustrations, and resources in the Shore Steward booklet to fit Hood Canal. (Mary Knackstedt)
 - The Theler Center Neighbors of the Hood Canal Website design is completed. Groups will have the opportunity to use this Website to post event notices and information about their programs. (Mary Knackstedt)
- *Comments/questions from public*
- *Response to public sentiments/concerns/issues*
- *Public outreach needs*
- *Upcoming meeting notices/speaking engagements*
 - Jan Newton will give a talk regarding Hood Canal at the faculty meeting of the UW School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences on 8 March (Newton/Hannafious).
 - Jan Newton was asked to speak at the HCCC Board Meeting on 11 March in Silverdale regarding the HCDOP-IAM study (Newton/Hannafious).
 - Greg Bargmann, Dave Christensen, Dan Hannafious, and Jan Newton will be speaking on Hood Canal as part the WSU Water Watcher's event at Fort Worden on 12 March (Newton/Hannafious).

Funding

- *Funding now available*
 - HCCC now has a NFWF grant of \$75,000. HCCC was turned down for two other grants recently with private foundations. (Christensen).
- *Funding needs*
- *Upcoming funding opportunities*

Legislative or Congressional action

- *Legislative contacts/meetings*
 - Dan Hannafious and Jan Newton presented the HCDOP-IAM and, specifically, the Citizen Monitoring effort, at the briefing with Governor Gregoire and Congressman Norm Dicks on 5 March (Newton/Hannafious).

- Several of the HCDOP group (Brad Ack, Bob Hager, Dan Hannafious, Tom Luce, Jan Newton, Jay Watson, Neil Werner) met with Karen Terwilleger to discuss HB 2097 on 4 March. (Newton/Hannafious).
- HCCC has been working frequently with legislative staff to provide information about bills, topics for the HC Committee, etc. (Christensen).
- Attended most House select committee meetings on HC, and helped prepare budget sheets as requested by committee and caucus staff; similarly helped craft state and local budget needs for the new Governor's policy and OFM staff. (Duane)
- Helped analyze various legislative bills and concepts and discussed other agencies' bill analyses related to Hood Canal (Duane)
- Met with Caroleen Dineen and Karen Terwilleger about their needs from HCDOP, per our discussion at last month's CG meeting (Duane)
- As part of Brad Ack's meeting with Elliot Marks, briefed the new Governor's office policy person on issues related to Hood Canal (Duane)
- *Regulations or policy issues*
 - HCCC hosted a tri-county workshop. Met with Jefferson/Kitsap/Mason BOCC's on Feb. 25th. They support taking a proactive, regional approach to water quality protection. They will seek legislative funding for this goal. They support Eikmeyer's bill, 2097, but will try to seek minor amendments. (Christensen).
 - Next HCCC meeting is March 11th from 12-3 at the Silverdale Community Center. (Christensen).

Media

- *Media contacts or requests*
 - Dick Wallace and I communicated with the *Olympian* outdoors/ sports reporter, Chester Allen, on the D.O. condition in HC and its effect on various types of marine life. (Duane)
- *Media coverage*
 - **Legislation isn't based on science (letter to the editor)**
Bremerton Sun
February 6, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/op_letters/article/0,2403,bsun_19096_3524619,00.html
 - **The search for clues to the "dead zone"**
Bremerton Sun
February 8, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/local/article/0,2403,bsun_19088_3530914,00.html
 - **Group exploring geoducks' role in Hood Canal problem**
Bremerton Sun
February 11, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/local/article/0,2403,bsun_19088_3539370,00.html
 - **Hood Canal warning requires action**
Seattle Post-Intelligencer
February 20, 2005

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/opinion/212685_pugeted.asp?searchpagefrom=2&searchdff=3

- **Another Try For Hood Canal Rehab Zone**
Bremerton Sun
February 21, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/local/article/0,2403,bsun_19088_3563516,00.html
- **Lawmakers want to crack down on broken septic tanks**
Seattle Post-Intelligencer
February 24, 2005
http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/213395_septic24.html
- **Hood Canal: Septic Bills Would Be Invasive, Costly**
Bremerton Sun
March 3, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/op_letters/article/0,2403,bsun_19096_3589116,00.html
- **In the Northwest: Hood Canal is worth saving -- and it won't be easy**
Seattle Post-Intelligencer
March 4, 2005
http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/connelly/214491_joel04.html
- **Hood Canal: Untouched Inlet Also Has Oxygen Problems**
Bremerton Sun
March 4, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/op_letters/article/0,2403,bsun_19096_3592809,00.html
- **Hood Canal: Support Legislation To Protect It**
Bremerton Sun
March 5, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/op_letters/article/0,2403,bsun_19096_3595923,00.html
- **Gregoire Tackles Hood Canal Woes**
Bremerton Sun
March 5, 2005
http://www1.kitsapsun.com/bsun/local/article/0,2403,bsun_19088_3599139,00.html